

**In the Specification:**

Listed below is a marked-up copy of amended paragraphs of the Specification indicating the amended paragraphs of the Specification.

On page 6, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 24 as follows:

Much of the increased time in the water is due to the elimination of the necessity for guests to spend a large amount of time standing in queue lines waiting for rides, as the continuous water ride would be coupled with the ride so that the guest may transfer directly from the system to the ride without leaving the water. The continuous water ride ~~also~~ allows guests to easily access remote areas of the park normally underutilized, which will act to increase park capacity; it will allow guests to self-regulate guest densities at various facilities within the system by making it easier and more enjoyable to bypass a high density area and travel to a low density area. ~~It will also~~ Continuous water rides may allow disabled or physically disadvantaged guests to enjoy multiple and extended rides with one floatation device and one entry to and exit from the system. It greatly reduces the amount of required walking by wet guests and reduces the likelihood of slip-and-fall type injuries caused by running guests. It reduces reliance on multiple floatation devices for separate rides and reduces wear and tear on the floatation devices by reducing or eliminating the need to drag them to and from individual rides, and allows park operators to provide guests with a single floatation device for use throughout the park.

On page 10, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 29 as follows:

FIG.10 depicts an embodiment of a ferris lock with ~~two~~ four chambers;

On page 12, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 3 as follows:

In some embodiments, a water amusement system (e.g., a waterpark) may include a “continuous water ride.” The continuous water ride may allow a participant using the continuous water ride to avoid long lines typically associated with many water amusement systems. Long lines and/or wait times are one of the greatest problems associated with water amusement systems in the area of customer satisfaction.

On page 12, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 21 as follows:

The concept of a continuous water ride was developed to address the problems and issues stated above associated with water amusement parks. Continuous water rides may assist in eliminating and/or reducing many long queue lines. Continuous water rides may eliminate and/or reduce participants having to walk back up to an entry point of a water ride. Continuous water rides may also allow the physically handicapped or physically challenged to take advantage of water amusement parks. Where before that may have been difficult if not impossible due to the many flights of stairs typically associated with water amusement parks.

On page 15, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 24 as follows:

The conveyor belt system may also be used to take riders and vehicles out of the water flow at stations requiring entry and/or exit from the continuous water ride. Riders and vehicles float to and are carried up on a moving conveyor on which riders may exit the vehicles. New riders may enter the vehicles and be transported into the continuous water ride at a desired location and velocity. The conveyor may extend below the surface of the water so as to more easily allow riders to naturally float or swim up onto the conveyor. Extending the conveyor below the surface of the water may allow for a smoother entry into the water when exiting the conveyor belt. Typically the conveyor belt takes riders and vehicles from a lower elevation to a

higher elevation, however it may be important to first transport the riders to an elevation higher than the elevation of their final destination. Upon reaching this apex the riders then may be transported down to the elevation of their final destination on a water slide, rollers, or on a continuation of the original conveyor that transported them to the apex. This serves the purpose of using gravity to push the rider off and away from the belt, slide, or rollers into a second water ride of the continuous water ride and/or a floating queue. The endpoint of a conveyor may be near a first end of a horizontal hydraulic head channel wherein input water is introduced through a first conduit. This current of flowing water may move the riders away from the conveyor endpoint in a quick and orderly fashion so as not to cause increase in rider density at the conveyor endpoint. Further, moving the riders quickly away from the conveyor endpoint may act as a safety feature reducing the risk of riders becoming entangled in any part of the conveyor belt or its mechanisms. A deflector plate may also extend from one or more ends of the conveyor and may extend to the bottom of the channel. When the deflector plate extends at an angle away from the conveyor it may help to guide the riders up onto the conveyor belt as well as inhibit access to the rotating rollers underneath the conveyor. These conveyors may be designed to lift riders from one level to a higher one, or may be designed to lift riders and vehicles out of the water, onto a horizontal moving platform and then return the vehicle with a new rider to the water.

On page 18, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 6 as follows:

More embodiments of conveyor systems are shown in FIGS. 4-6. FIG. 4 shows a dry conveyor 8 for transporting riders entering the system into a channel. It includes a conveyor belt portion ending at the top of downhill slide 6 which riders slide down on into the water. FIG. 5 shows a wet conveyor 8 for transporting riders from a lower channel to a higher one with downhill slide 6 substituted for the launch conveyor. FIG. 6 shows a river conveyor 8 for

transporting riders from a channel to a lazy river. This embodiment does not have a descending portion.

On page 20, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 25 as follows:

In certain embodiments, the participants may be floating in water during the entire transfer from the first water ride to the second water ride. The participants may be swimming in the water or floating upon a floatation device. ~~Preferably, the participants are~~ may floating on an inner tube, a floatation board, raft, or other floatation devices used by riders on water rides.

On page 30, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 16 as follows:

Embodiments disclosed herein provide an interactive control system for a continuous water ride and/or portions of the continuous water ride. In certain embodiments, the control system may include a programmable logic controller. The control system may be coupled to one or more activation points, participant detectors, and/or flow control devices. ~~In addition, one~~ One or more other sensors may be coupled to the control system. The control system may be utilized to provide a wide variety of interactive and/or automated water features. In some embodiments, participants may apply a participant signal to one or more activation points. The activation points may send activation signals to the control system in response to the participant signals. The control system may be configured to send control signals to a water system, a light system, and/or a sound system in response to a received activation signal from an activation point. A water system may include, for example, a water effect generator, a conduit for providing water to the water effect generator, and a flow control device. The control system may send different control signals depending on which activation point sent an activation signal. The participant signal may be applied to the activation point by the application of pressure, moving a movable activating device, a gesture (e.g., waving a hand), interrupting a light beam, a participant

identifier and/or by voice activation. Examples of activation points include, but are not limited to, hand wheels, push buttons, optical touch buttons, pull ropes, paddle wheel spinners, motion detectors, sound detectors, and levers.

On page 35, please amend the paragraphs beginning on line 14 as follows:

In some embodiments, sections of the framework forming a convertible cover or positionable screen may include frameworks known to one skilled in the art as relates to covers for swimming pools and/or greenhouses. For example, the framework may include substantially tubular metal frames. Portions of the tubular metal frames may include interior reinforcement members. Interior reinforcement members may strengthen the tubular metal frames. Interior reinforcement members may include hollow rectangular section positioned in the tubular metal frames.

In some embodiments, sections of the framework forming the positionable screens may be formed in the overall shape of an arch. Section may include one or more tracks positioned on one or more sides of the framework. The tracks may allow panels (i.e., portions of a screen) to slide along the sections of the framework relative to one another.

On page 35, please amend the paragraphs beginning on line 28 as follows:

In some embodiments, screens may have several rigid frame members. The number may depend upon the length of the area being covered. Each frame member may include a plurality of sections which are connected together in end-to-end relationship. Sections may be any shape (e.g., rectangular, square, triangular). The connection between frame member sections may be by means known to one skilled in the art (e.g., bolts, hinges). Hinges may allow at least a portion of the structure to be folded if it is desired to remove the screen completely-area. Each of the rigid

frame members may include a pair of oppositely disposed substantially vertical wall sections and ceiling sections jointed together in an arch. Between the rigid frame members are panels of flexible material which may be a canvas or other easily foldable material. End panels may also be formed of a foldable material which is preferably transparent or translucent.

In certain embodiments, a ceiling section may include a pair of parallel, longitudinally extending, channel-shaped side elements and a pair of channel-shaped end elements. The side flanges of each of the four elements forming the section extend inwardly. The side and end elements may be welded together or they may be held together by means of suitable fasteners to form a rectangular frame section. Attached to the outer (upper) side flanges of the elements are spacers which extend around the periphery of the structure. Outwardly of the spacers and coextensive with the side elements are a pair of upwardly extending smaller channel elements which are of greater width than the spacer and thus protrude inwardly over and are spaced from the top web of the larger side elements. This spacing will accommodate a rigid panel of transparent or translucent material such as plexiglass. Around the panel may be a resilient bead of flexible material which serves as a weather seal for the panel. Bolts may be used to connect the end element of frame section to the opposite end element of the next adjacent frame section. If desired, braces may be bolted to the sides of the frame member sections for added rigidity and strength at the joint.

On page 39, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 21 as follows:

In some embodiments, a plurality of personal identifiers may be used in combination with a water amusement park. Personal identifiers may be provided to each individual participant of the water amusement park. Personal identifiers may be provided for each member of staff working at the water amusement park. Within the context of this application the term "participant" may include anyone located in the confines of the water amusement park including,

but not limited to, staff and/or patrons. A plurality of sensors may be used in combination with the personal identifiers. Personal identifiers may function as personal transmitters. Sensors may function as receiver units. Sensors may be positioned throughout the water amusement park. Sensors may be positioned, for example, at particular junctions (i.e., coupling points) along, for example, a continuous water ride. Sensors may be placed along, for example, floating queue lines, channels, entry/exit points along water rides, and/or entry/exit points between portions of the water amusement park. Personal identifiers working in combination with sensors may be used to locate and/or identify participants.

On page 41, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 1 as follows:

In some embodiments, participant identifiers may be removably coupled to a participant. The participant identifier may ~~be~~ include a band which may be coupled around an appendage of a participant. The band may be attached around, for example, an arm and/or leg of a participant. In some embodiments, identifiers may include any shape. Identifiers may be worn around the neck of a participant much like a medallion. In some embodiments, an identifier may be substantially attached directly to the skin of a participant using an appropriate adhesive. In some embodiments, an identifier may be coupled to an article of clothing worn by a participant. The identifier may be coupled to the article of clothing using, for example, a “safety pin”, a plastic clip, a spring clip, and/or a magnetic based clip. In some embodiments, identifiers may be essentially “locked” after coupling the identifier to a participant. A lock may inhibit the identifier from being removed from the participant by anyone other than a staff member except under emergency circumstances. Locking the identifier to the participant may inhibit loss of identifiers during normal use of identifiers. In some embodiments, a participant identifier may be designed to detach from a participant under certain conditions. Conditions may include, for example, when abnormal forces are exerted on the participant identifier. Abnormal forces may

result from the participant identifier becoming caught on a protrusion, which could potentially endanger the participant.

On page 42, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 31 as follows:

In some embodiments, participant identifiers may be used as part of an automated safety control system. Participant identifiers may be used to assist in determining and/or assessing whether a participant has been separated from their vehicle. Sensors may be positioned along portions of a water amusement park. For example sensors may be placed at different intervals along a water amusement ride. Intervals at which sensors are placed may be regular or irregular. Placement of sensors may be based on possible risks associated with ~~of~~ a portion of a water amusement ride. For example, sensors may be placed with more frequency along faster moving portions of a water amusement ride where the danger for a participant to be separated from their vehicle is more prevalent.

On page 43, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 26 as follows:

In some embodiments, a combination of automated and manual operations of a safety control system may be used to initially assess a number of participants associated with a vehicle. For example, an operator may provide input to initiate a sensor or a series of sensors to assess the number of participants associated with the vehicle. The assessment may be conducted at an entry point of a water amusement ride.

On page 46, please amend the paragraphs beginning on line 6 as follows:

In some embodiments, participant identifiers may be used to assist in regulating throughput of participants through portions of a water amusement park. Participant identifiers



may be used in combination with sensors to track a number of participants through a portion of the water amusement park. Keeping track of numbers of participants throughout the water park may allow adjustments to be made to portions of the water park. Adjustments made to portions of the water park may allow the portions to run more efficiently. Adjustments may be at least partially automated and carried out by a central control system. Increasing efficiency in portions of the water park may decrease waiting times for rides.

In some embodiments, sensors may be positioned along one or both sides of a floating queue line. Sensors in floating queue lines may be able to assist in detecting participants wearing participant identifiers. ~~Data including about~~ concerning participants in the floating queue lines may be transferred to a control system. Data may include number of participants, identity of the participants, and/or speed of the participants through the floating queue lines. Based on data collected from the sensors, a control system may try to impede or accelerate the speed and/or throughput of participants through the floating queue line as described herein. Adjustment of the throughput of participants through the floating queue lines may be fully or partially automated. As numbers of participants in a particular ride increase throughput may decrease. In response to data from sensors the control system may increase the flow rate of participants to compensate. The control system may automatically notify water park staff if the control system is not able to compensate for increased flow rate of participants.